ECHO BAY MARINE PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

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Approved by:

Date:

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Date:

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105-01287/

ECHO BAY MARINE PROVINCIAL PARK
Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role
The **primary** role of Echo Bay Marine Park is to provide a marine-based recreation opportunity for the people of Gilford Island and visitors exploring the Inside Passage and the Broughton Archipelago. Recreational opportunities in the park include fishing, picnicking, camping, walking, and nature appreciation. A former Forest Ranger Station, it offers safe moorage through the provision of a 70-foot dock. The small 1.5 hectare park encompasses a shell beach, a small grassy field and a forest trail which leads around to the head of the bay. Facilities include a number of walk-in campsites, a pit toilet, and freshwater from a standpipe. The role of the park as a resting site for cruisers or kayakers is complemented by a private resort at the entrance to the bay which offers additional moorage as well as fuel and provisions.

Secondary Role
The **secondary** role is to provide nearshore habitat for wildlife species. Numerous species of shorebirds and pelagic birds inhabit the park year-round, including great blue herons which have a rookery in the park. Harbour porpoises also utilize the small nearshore area.

Management Issues

Known Management Issue	Response
Lack of detailed knowledge of cultural values	➢ Undertake a cultural assessment in conjunction with First Nations.
Maintenance of dock as access to school and encroachments (school/local community hall)	➢ Undertake a partnership with School District 85 to cost-share the maintenance of the dock, and to accept liability associated with usage.
Viability as a provincial park given its local values	➢ Work with local community to transfer area so it can be locally operated.

Zoning

Natural Environment Zone – covers the entire park (1.5 hectares). The objective of this zone is to protect scenic values and to provide recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.

Conservation

Representation		
- ecosection	☐	Not large enough to be representative
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant	☐	Not large enough to be representative
Special Feature	☒	Heron rookery
Rare/Endangered Values	☒	Blue-listed great blue heron and harbour porpoise
Scientific/Research Opportunities	☐	None known at this time

Recreation

Representation		
backcountry	☐	Not Applicable
destination	☒	Boating, safe harbour, music festival
travel corridor	☒	Secondary marine route, part of Inside Passage
local recreation	☒	Moorage, picnic site, freshwater, camping
Special Opportunities	☐	None known at this time
Education/Interpretation Opportunities	☒	Cultural values

Cultural Heritage

Representation	☐	Values unknown
Special Feature	☒	Extensive First Nations midden site

Other Management Considerations

Other Designations	☐	Not Applicable
Relationship to other PAs	☒	Part of a system of protected areas in the Johnstone Strait area and along the Inside Passage
Co-operative Management Arrangements	☐	Not applicable
Partnerships	☒	Possible partnership with local community
Vulnerability	☐	Not applicable
Relationship to other Strategies	☒	Central Coast LRMP

Area: 1.5 hectares

Date of establishment: February 26, 1971

Zoning Map - Echo Bay Marine Park

Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

Produced in Apr 2003 for
Ministry of Water, Land and Air
Protection by MSRM, Decision
Support Services

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